(c) whether Government is considering their demands; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Agriculture has not received such an information.

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise.

Sowing of wheat and other foodgrains

t 806. DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that sowing of wheat and other foodgrains in the rabi crop during current year has been less as compared to earlier years;

(b) if so, the area in which wheat, paddy, oilseeds, pulses, sugarcane and cotton have been sown respectively;

(c) how much it is less as compared to earlier years' sowing in each case; and

(d) the means Government has decided to adopt to meet the shortfall in production as a result of less sowing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Table below presents the area coverage under wheat, paddy, coarse cereals and pulses during Rabi 2008 *vis-a-vis* those during Rabi 2007 and Rabi 2006:

(Lakh hectares)

Crop	Rabi 2008	Rabi 2007	Rabi 2006	
Wheat Paddy	271.99	279.95	264.84	42.12
Coarse Cereals	40.93	4325		63.14
Pulses	5828	63.64		
	116.10	125.16		117.12

• (b) and (c) Table below presents the areas coverage (both Kharif and Rabi seasons) under wheat, paddy, oilseeds, pulses, sugarcane and cotton during the years 2005-06,2006-07 and 2007-08 alongwith their differences:

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(Lakh hectares)

Crop	Areas Coverage			Difference
1*	2	3	4	5=(Col.2-col.3)
	2007-08	2006-7	2005-06	
Wheat	271.99	279.95	264.84	-7.96 7.15
Paddy	437.01	438.14	436.60	-1.13 0.41
Oilseeds	268.42	265.13	278.63	329 -1021

t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.